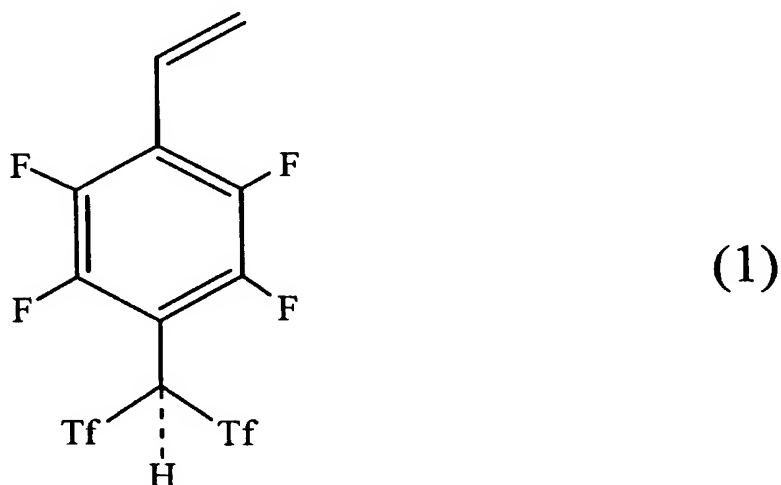


**Amendments to the Claims:**

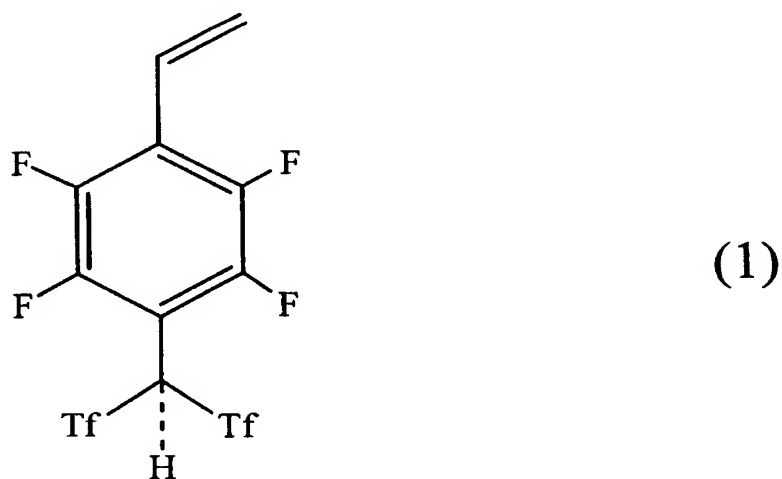
The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A monomer ~~compound~~ represented by the general formula (1):

wherein Tf indicates a trifluoromethane sulfonyl group ( $-\text{SO}_2\text{CF}_3$ ).

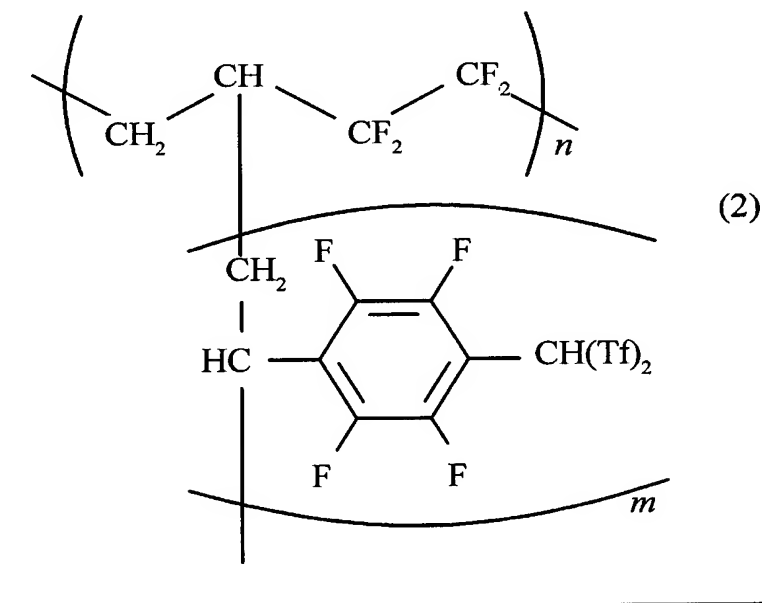
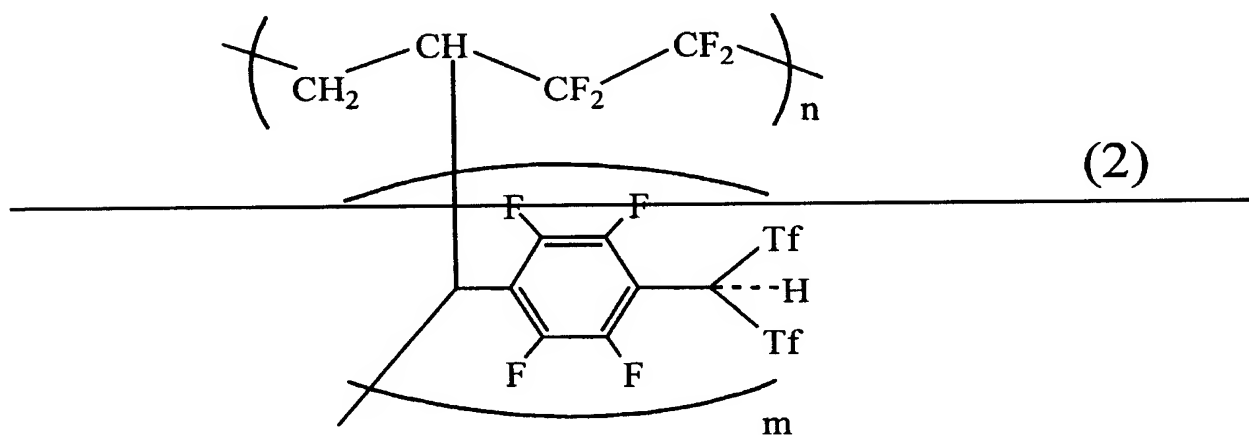


2. (Currently Amended) A graft copolymer ~~compound~~ in which ~~the~~ a monomer ~~compound~~ represented by the general formula (1):



is graft-copolymerized to the main chain of a fluorine-containing hydrocarbon polymer, wherein Tf indicates a trifluoromethane sulfonyl group ( $-\text{SO}_2\text{CF}_3$ ).

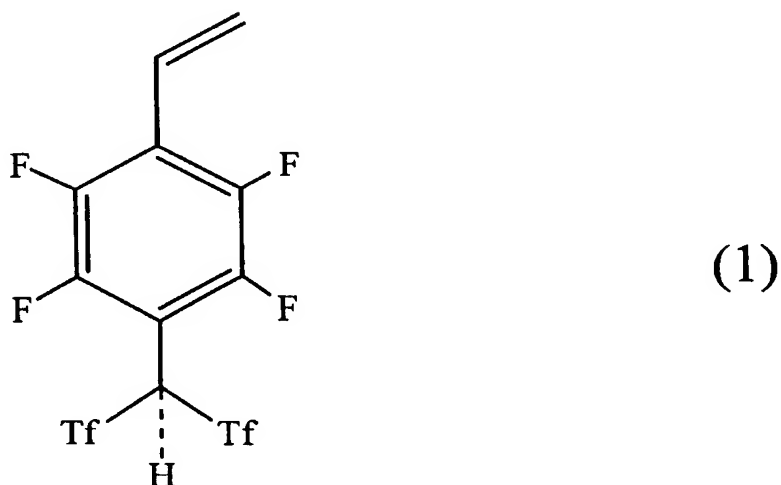
3. (Currently Amended) The graft copolymer compound according to claim 2 represented by the general formula (2):



wherein the main chain of said fluorine-containing hydrocarbon polymer is an ethylene-tetrafluoroethylene copolymer, and Tf indicates a trifluoromethane sulfonyl group ( $-\text{SO}_2\text{CF}_3$ ),

n is not less than 10, and m is not less than 3.

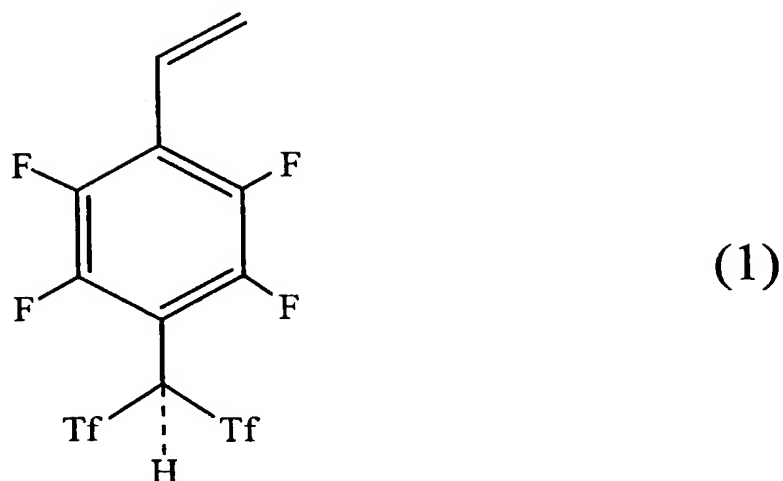
4. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a graft copolymer ~~compound~~ comprising graft-copolymerizing ~~the a monomer compound~~ represented by the general formula (1):



to a fluorine-containing hydrocarbon polymer ~~compound~~, wherein Tf indicates a trifluoromethane sulfonyl group ( $-\text{SO}_2\text{CF}_3$ ).

5. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A polymer electrolyte membrane wherein the graft copolymer ~~compound~~ according to claim 2 is processed into a membrane.

6. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A polymer electrolyte membrane wherein the monomer ~~compound~~ represented by the general formula (1):



is graft-copolymerized to a base film comprising a fluorine-containing hydrocarbon polymer, wherein Tf indicates a trifluoromethane sulfonyl group ( $-\text{SO}_2\text{CF}_3$ ).

7. (Previously Presented) A polymer electrolyte fuel cell comprising the electrolyte membrane according to claim 5, reactive poles that sandwich said electrolyte membrane on both sides thereof, and separators that sandwich said reactive poles.

8. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A polymer electrolyte membrane wherein the graft copolymer compound according to claim 3 is processed into a membrane.

9. (Previously Presented) A polymer electrolyte fuel cell comprising the electrolyte membrane according to claim 6, reactive poles that sandwich said electrolyte membrane on both sides thereof, and separators that sandwich said reactive poles.